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PAGE 01 SAIGON 04247 281218Z

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ACTION EA 10

INFO NSCE 00,CIAE 00,SSO 00,DODE 00,USIE 00,NSAE 00,CCO 00,EUR 25,
IO 21,SAL 01,SP 02,SS 35,GPM 03,SC 01,NSC 10,RSC 01,P 04,INR 07,
AID 30,RSC 01,L 03,H 02,/165 W

P R 281120Z AUG 67
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5511
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK 3955
CINCPAC FOR POLAD
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE 2293
AMCONSUL DANANG 816

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY Dean Izenberg DATE 12/23/81
DOS ☐ or XGDS ☐ CAT. DATE
13 AUTH.
RELEASE DATE
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

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1. AS PART OF CAMPAIGN EFFORT IN SAIGON AREA GENERAL THIEU VISITED CHOLON AUGUST 27 WHERE HE ADDRESSED ESTIMATED 5,000 VIETNAMESE OF CHINESE DESCENT ASSEMBLED AT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BUILDING.

2. THIEU REVIEWED ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF REGIME DURING PAST TWO YEARS, EMPHASIZED IMPORTANCE OF FAIR AND FREE ELECTIONS

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AND URGED VIETNAMESE OF CHINESE DESCENT TO COOPERATE WITH GVN IN TASK OF BUILDING DEMOCRACY.

3. IN QUESTION AND ANSWER PERIOD FOLLOWING HIS PREPARED STATEMENT THIEU REITERATED WILLINGNESS TO MEET WITH

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OFFICIAL REPRESENTATIVES OF NATIONAL LIBERATION FRONT SHOULD FRONT SEEK SUCH A MEETING. VIETNAM PRESS AND SEVERAL VERNACULAR PAPERS FURTHER REPORT THIEU AS SAYING HE IS PREPARED TO DISCUSS ANY SUBJECT WITH FRONT REPRESENTATIVES AND READY TO GUARANTEE SECURITY OF SUCH REPRESENTATIVES WISHING TO MEET HIM.

4. REPLYING TO ANOTHER QUESTION, THIEU SAID HE HOPED TO RECEIVE FORTY PERCENT OF THE VOTES CAST IN THE ELECTION. HE ALSO DECLARED THAT HIS STRONGEST ADVERSARIES WERE TRAN VAN HUONG, PHAN KHAC SUU AND HA THUC KY. ASKED ABOUT PROBLEM OF RETURNING CONTROL OF CONGREGATION PROPERTIES TO CHINESE, THIEU REPLIED THAT ENTIRE MATTER WOULD BE REVIEWED AFTER ELECTIONS. BUNKER

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